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|  | <b>MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF PEACE NO. 135</b>  |                        |
| <b>PREPARED BY:</b> Nasar Iqbal   | <b>ADOPTED BY:</b>                          | <b>NUMBER:</b> ASB – 8 |
| <b>REVISED BY:</b>  | <b>COUNCIL</b>                              | <b>Page 1 of 4</b>     |
| <b>TITLE:</b> FUSARIUM GRAMINEARUM  | February 27, 2020<br>Amended April 13, 2021 |                        |

### **OBJECTIVE:**

To provide direction for the Municipal District of Peace No.135 to reduce the impact of *Fusarium graminearum* (Fg) and to provide policy and procedures regarding Fg for the Invasive Species Bylaw.

### **PURPOSE:**


To minimize Fg's impact on the Municipal District of Peace No.135 and the Peace Region.

### **POLICY:**

- 1.1 To specify steps which the MD of Peace (MD) will take to comply with and enforce the Invasive Species Bylaw.
- 1.2 Bring education and awareness to businesses and residents within the MD to minimize the negative impacts caused by Fg.
- 1.3 To identify and prevent the establishment of Fg within the MD.
- 1.4 Provide proper, safe and effective control of Fg.

### **2.0 M.D. OF PEACE NO. 135 Commitment**

- 2.1 Provide direction, supervision, and resources to the Manager of Ag Services to carry out this policy and enforce the Invasive Species Bylaw.
- 2.2 Maintain a fleet of equipment and staff to inspect the MD adequately.
- 2.3 Provide the necessary budget to carry out confirmation testing.


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### **3.0 Manager of Ag Services Responsibilities**

- 3.1 Act as the Inspector and carry out the required duties under the Invasive Species Bylaw and this policy.
- 3.2 Carry out inspections per the Invasive Species Bylaw and under section 542 of the Municipal Government Act.
- 3.3 Act as liaison between the MD and ratepayers to coordinate control of confirmed Fg infestations.
- 3.4 Inspect for Fg within the MD in fields, on private & public property, right of ways, industrial areas, railways & rail yards. Areas with known previous infestations and owners with known positive test results, i.e. a submitted seed sample, will be prioritized.
- 3.5 Ensure any instance of Fg found within the MD is dealt with in accordance with the Bylaw and this policy.
- 3.6 Determine the need for enforcement of any breach of the Invasive Species Bylaw and issue or assist with issuing and enforcing an Order to Remedy on any Bylaw contraventions according to section 545 of the Municipal Government Act using the procedures set out below.

### **4.0 Enforcement Procedures**

- 4.1 Action will be taken to address the Invasive Species Bylaw's breach on any property identified as containing Fg.

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- 4.2 The Property's Owner (as defined in the Invasive Species Bylaw) will be notified of Fg's presence and offered recommendations for control. The Inspector may issue a Violation Tag containing recommendations. Such recommendations may not require the destruction of the crop. The Inspector may instead issue an Order to Remedy according to section 545 of the Municipal Government Act, subject to Council approval.
- 4.3 The Council may direct an Order to Remedy issued to destroy any crop containing Fg or grown in contravention of this Policy or the Invasive Species Bylaw where other remediation measures have failed.
- 4.4 The Inspector may also determine whether to impose any fines or penalties under the Invasive Species Bylaw.

#### **ACTION:**


Inspectors will inspect a minimum of 5 fields and 5 seed samples post harvest for Fg in the Municipality each year and inspect all susceptible fields where corn was growing last year. An attempt will be made to ensure the susceptible fields inspected are spread as equally as possible throughout the Municipality.

Priorities for inspected fields may include:

1. symptoms are noticed through other inspections (i.e. weed inspections)
2. the possibility that infected seed was utilized (i.e. seed was imported from outside the Peace Region, information is discovered through an elevator agent's down-grading of delivered grain or a Seed Plant reports of a lot testing positive for Fg from a specific grower)
3. cereal grains are grown in short rotation, mainly if corn is grown in the rotation

#### **The Municipal District of Peace No. 135 will implement the following:**

1. the seed source of the infested field shall be traced, and any other suspect fields shall be inspected;
2. confirmation of the infected material will be made by DNA analysis

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3. The Council shall be informed of any Fg infestations found, and any enforcement actions will be as directed by Council.

### **INSPECTION:**

To inspect for Fg, the Manager of Ag Services shall:

1. keep staff informed of the symptoms;
2. supervise surveys (if any) according to Alberta Agriculture guidelines;
3. inform farmers of symptoms and, through increased knowledge, garner their assistance for inspection & sampling purposes;
4. ensure staff survey fields from all producers who had samples that tested DNA positive for Fg during the previous seed cleaning season.

### **AWARENESS:**

To raise awareness of the problem

1. use available information as handouts
2. consider holding information meetings, or having displays, posters and web articles produced and disseminated.